

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

**In re Application of:** James W. Morrow, *et al.*    **Examiner:** Patel, Niketa I.  
**Application No.:** 09/746,854    **Group Art Unit:** 2181  
**Filing Date:** December 22, 2000    **Confirmation No.** 7292  
**Office Action Date:** December 28, 2007    **Docket No.** 83336.0476  
**Title:** GENERIC DEVICE CONTROLLER UNIT  
AND METHOD    **Customer No.** 66880

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**RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION**

This amendment is filed in response to the Office action mailed December 28, 2007, and is timely filed.

**INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS**

Claims 1-38 are pending in the present application. Claims 1-4, 6-20, 22-27, and 29-38 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Swales, *et al.* (U.S. Patent No. 6,233,626), and further in view of Montijo (U.S. Patent No. 6,052,107). Claims 5, 21, and 28 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Swales, *et al.* (U.S. Patent No. 6,233,626), Montijo (U.S. Patent No. 6,052,107), and further in view of Evoy *et al.* (U.S. Patent No. 5,958,020).

Claims 1, 9-12, 17, 19, 21-24, 30, and 32 have been amended. No claims have been canceled or added. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the rejected claims, and contend that the differences between the claimed invention and the cited references are such that the claimed invention is patentably distinct over the cited references.